

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- Subs  
B1
1. A method, comprising:  
receiving a completion packet at a receiving device;  
determining whether the completion packet is expected by the receiving device;  
and  
discarding the completion packet if the completion packet is not expected.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining whether the completion packet is expected includes determining whether the completion packet corresponds to any outstanding requests previously issued by the receiving device.
- 3.. The method of claim 2, further comprising reporting an error condition.
- Subs  
B2
4. A method, comprising:  
receiving a completion packet at a receiving device, the completion packet including a completion status and a completer identification;  
determining whether the completion packet includes a completion status other than successful; and  
storing the completer identification in a first register if the completion status is other than successful.

5. The method of claim 4, further including indicating in a second register that an unsuccessful completion was received if the completion status is other than successful.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising reporting an error condition if the completion status is other than successful.

7. A method, comprising:  
servicing a request packet from a requesting device at a completer device, the request packet including a requestor identification and a tag;  
transmitting a completion packet with a completion status other than successful from the completer device to the requesting device if an error condition exists; and  
storing the requestor identification at a location in the completer device if the error condition exists.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising storing the tag at a location in the completer device if the error condition exists.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising indicating in a register in the completer device that a completion packet with a completer status other than successful was transmitted if the error condition exists.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising reporting the error condition if it exists.